

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Frederick County Sustainability Commission**  
**Wednesday, February 20, 2013, 3:00 p.m.**  
**Frederick Innovative Technology Center, Inc.**

**Present:** Fred Ugast, Chris May, Margie Lance, Tim Jones, Tom Anderson, Lonnie Ropp, Lisa Gaver, J.J. Hartner, Dick Ishler, Mark Lancaster, Robert Black

**Office of Sustainability and Environmental Resources (OSER) Staff:** Shannon Moore, Darlene Bucciero, Sabrina Harder, Nicole Robinson

**Other attendees:** Rich Maranto, Jeff Williford

**1. Call to Order and Welcome**

Chair Margie Lance called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

**2. Administrative Items**

Approval of January Meeting Minutes: Lonnie Ropp made a motion to approve January minutes. Tim Jones seconded the motion. All in favor; minutes approved.

**3. Legislative Update**

Lonnie Ropp presented Legislative Committee updates to the group. Thirty-five bills were identified with a sustainability focus. Summary handouts were provided to the Commission members with information on the identified bills. There will be more details available in March.

Shannon Moore and Fred Ugast attended the Clean Energy Center Legislative Event. There was discussion of the Senate Bill (SB) 699: Electricity- Community Energy-Generating Facilities- Pilot Program, which was first introduced last year and did not pass. It is back for review this year.

Lisa Gaver stated the Farm Bureau has concerns about some proposed legislation being over-reaching, mentioning such bills as House Bill (HB) 1282: Agricultural Land Condemnation Board and Senate Bill SB 427/ HB 796: Income Tax Credit- Agricultural Land- Diminution in Value of Real Property.

Shannon Moore stated it is assumed that SB 0317/ HB 0434: Frederick County-Stormwater Management- Watershed Protection and Restoration Program- Exemption would not pass, but it has helped to raise awareness.

Lonnie Ropp encouraged the Sustainability Commission members to add any bills they may be following.

Rich Maranto questioned whether there was knowledge of which bills have a chance and could that be noted on the chart. Response was that it may be too early to tell.

With regard to SB 699, it was stated that Delegate Schultz is on the Review Committee and SB 699 will be reviewed before the next Sustainability Commission meeting. There was also discussion about submitting a position from the Sustainability Commission. It was decided to not submit a position at this time, as this year was meant to be a trial for tracking legislation and developing a process to submit positions on behalf of the Sustainability Commission.

#### **4. Updates and Comments**

Mike Dailey from the Frederick Innovative Technology Center, Inc. (FITCI) gave an overview of his organization's services. He stated they help start-up companies in technology field. The three (3) types of clients they primarily serve are Bio-technology, Information Technology, and Renewable Energy Technology. The goal is economic development. Not all clients are present in building. Some are tenants and others are virtual. They have created a \$17 Million/year economic impact in Frederick County with over 300 new technology jobs. FITC is a non-profit, and 1 of 12 business incubators in Maryland.

#### **Sustainability Commission Member Comments**

Tom Anderson: He is working with Forestry Board to help Agricultural Land Preservation and has a presentation scheduled for March.

Robert Black: He mentioned that Delegate Schultz was appreciative of the apples at the Chamber this morning.

Chris May: He was in San Diego, CA last week for an annual industry conference and training. 2013 looks to be solid for the solar market with development in demand for solar systems with battery back-up.

#### **OSER Staff Updates**

Darlene Bucciero: She spoke about a project with students from George Washington University to promote Green Building in Frederick County. A draft survey has been developed and is under review.

Shannon Moore: She spoke about the Committee for Accounting for Growth Policy. They are working on developing a Storm Water Utility fee; it is estimated that \$5M of revenue

is needed per year, \$70 M/per year if unfinanced under maximum requirements. She stated she will be doing a Presentation to the Board of County Commissioners next Thursday on this issue. Next month's Sustainability Commission meeting will focus on Water Quality.

### **Public Comments**

Rich Maranto: Reminder that Green Drinks is tonight at 5:00 p.m. and Michael Judd of Ecologia will be presenting at 6:00 p.m.

### **5. Sustainability Indicators**

Margie Lance requested that each Sustainability Commission member commit to monitoring 1-2 Sustainability Indicators.

### **6. Adjourn – 3:57 p.m.**

Meeting convened to tour TownePlace Suites (owned by Plamondon), a LEED certified building.

*Minutes submitted by Sabrina Harder.*